

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1187

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 7, 1999

Mr. DORGAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### 3   **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Lewis and Clark Expe-  
5       dition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act”.

### 6   **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       The Congress finds that—

8               (1) the expedition commanded by Meriwether  
9       Lewis and William Clark, which came to be called  
10       “The Corps of Discovery”, was one of the most re-

1       markable and productive scientific and military ex-  
2       ploring expeditions in all American history;

3               (2) President Thomas Jefferson gave Lewis and  
4       Clark the mission to “explore the Missouri River &  
5       such principal stream of it, as, by its course and  
6       communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean,  
7       whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado, or any  
8       other river may offer the most direct and practical  
9       water communication across this continent for the  
10      purposes of commerce”;

11             (3) the Expedition, in response to President  
12      Jefferson’s directive, greatly advanced our geo-  
13      graphical knowledge of the continent and prepared  
14      the way for the extension of the American fur trade  
15      with American Indian tribes throughout the land;

16             (4) President Jefferson directed the explorers to  
17      take note of and carefully record the natural re-  
18      sources of the newly acquired territory known as  
19      Louisiana, as well as diligently report on the native  
20      inhabitants of the land;

21             (5) the Expedition departed St. Louis, Missouri  
22      on May 14, 1804;

23             (6) the Expedition held its first meeting with  
24      American Indians at Council Bluff near present-day  
25      Fort Calhoun, Nebraska, in August 1804, spent its

1 first winter at Fort Mandan, North Dakota, crossed  
2 the Rocky Mountains by the mouth of the Columbia  
3 River in mid-November of that year, and wintered at  
4 Fort Clatsop, near the present-day city of Astoria,  
5 Oregon;

6 (7) the Expedition returned to St. Louis, Mis-  
7 souri, on September 23, 1806, after a 28-month  
8 journey covering 8,000 miles during which it tra-  
9 versed 11 future States: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas,  
10 Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Mon-  
11 tana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon;

12 (8) accounts from the journals of Lewis and  
13 Clark and the detailed maps that were prepared by  
14 the Expedition enhance knowledge of the western  
15 continent and routes for commerce;

16 (9) the Expedition significantly enhanced ami-  
17 cable relationships between the United States and  
18 the autonomous American Indian nations, and the  
19 friendship and respect fostered between American  
20 Indian tribes and the Expedition represents the best  
21 of diplomacy and relationships between divergent na-  
22 tions and cultures; and

23 (10) the Lewis and Clark Expedition has been  
24 called the most perfect expedition of its kind in the

1 history of the world and paved the way for the  
2 United States to become a great world power.

3 **SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.**

4 (a) DENOMINATION.—In commemoration of the bi-  
5 centennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the Sec-  
6 retary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to  
7 as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue not more than  
8 500,000 \$1 coins, each of which shall—

- 9 (1) weigh 26.73 grams;  
10 (2) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and  
11 (3) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent  
12 copper.

13 (b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this  
14 Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of  
15 title 31, United States Code.

16 (c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section  
17 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted  
18 under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

19 **SEC. 4. SOURCES OF BULLION.**

20 The Secretary may obtain silver for minting coins  
21 under this Act from any available source, including stock-  
22 piles established under the Strategic and Critical Mate-  
23 rials Stock Piling Act.

24 **SEC. 5. DESIGN OF COINS.**

25 (a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins  
2           minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the ex-  
3           pedition of Lewis and Clark.

4           (2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On  
5           each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

6                   (A) a designation of the value of the coin;

7                   (B) an inscription of the year “2004” and  
8           the years “1804–1806”; and

9                   (C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”,  
10          “In God We Trust”, “United States of Amer-  
11          ica”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

12          (3) OBVERSE OF COIN.—The obverse of each  
13          coin minted under this Act shall bear the likeness of  
14          Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

15          (4) GENERAL DESIGN.—In designing the coin  
16          minted under this Act, the Secretary shall also con-  
17          sider incorporating appropriate elements from the  
18          Jefferson Peace and Friendship Medal, which Lewis  
19          and Clark presented to the Chiefs of the various In-  
20          dian tribes they encountered and shall consider rec-  
21          ognizing Native American culture.

22          (b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted  
23          under this Act shall be selected by the Secretary after con-  
24          sultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and shall be

1 reviewed by the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory  
2 Committee.

3 **SEC. 6. ISSUANCE OF COINS.**

4 (a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this  
5 Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

6 (b) MINT FACILITY.—Only 1 facility of the United  
7 States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality  
8 of the coins minted under this Act.

9 (c) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may  
10 issue coins minted under this Act only during the period  
11 beginning on January 1, 2004, and ending on December  
12 31, 2004.

13 **SEC. 7. SALE OF COINS.**

14 (a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act  
15 shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum  
16 of—

17 (1) the face value of the coins;

18 (2) the surcharge provided in subsection (d)  
19 with respect to such coins; and

20 (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins  
21 (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery,  
22 overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

23 (b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk  
24 sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable  
25 discount.

1 (c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept  
3 prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act  
4 before the issuance of such coins.

5 (2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to pre-  
6 paid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a rea-  
7 sonable discount.

8 (d) SURCHARGES.—All sales of coins minted under  
9 this Act shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

10 **SEC. 8. DISTRIBUTION OF SURCHARGES.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title  
12 31, United States Code, the proceeds from the surcharges  
13 received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued  
14 under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary  
15 as follows:

16 (1) NATIONAL LEWIS AND CLARK BICENTEN-  
17 NIAL COUNCIL.— $\frac{2}{3}$  to the National Lewis and Clark  
18 Bicentennial Council, for activities associated with  
19 commemorating the bicentennial of the Expedition.

20 (2) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.— $\frac{1}{3}$  to the Na-  
21 tional Park Service for activities associated with  
22 commemorating the bicentennial of the Lewis and  
23 Clark Expedition.

24 (b) AUDITS.—Each organization that receives any  
25 payment from the Secretary under this section shall be

1 subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of  
2 title 31, United States Code.

3 **SEC. 9. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.**

4 (a) NO NET COST TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The Sec-  
5 retary shall take such actions as may be necessary to en-  
6 sure that minting and issuing coins under this Act will  
7 not result in any net cost to the United States Govern-  
8 ment.

9 (b) PAYMENT FOR COINS.—A coin shall not be issued  
10 under this Act unless the Secretary has received—

11 (1) full payment for the coin;

12 (2) security satisfactory to the Secretary to in-  
13 demnify the United States for full payment; or

14 (3) a guarantee of full payment satisfactory to  
15 the Secretary from a depository institution whose  
16 deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insur-  
17 ance Corporation or the National Credit Union Ad-  
18 ministration Board.

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